

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

[0011] FIGURE 4 illustrates an application of a universal mandrel for fabricating reinforcing rings of carbon/epoxy in a generator construction; ~~and~~

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

[0012] FIGURE 5 depicts another embodiment of the invention in which an adapter ring of the universal mandrel is designed to be an integral part of the finished component to provide either buffered thermo-mechanical properties for the reinforcing ring or serve as a load diffusion path to provide more uniform loading to the composite ring for enhanced structural performance or life; and

FIGURES 6 and 7 illustrate alternatives for locking the sleeve.

Please replace paragraph [0014] with the following amended paragraph:

[0014] With continued reference to FIG. 2 and with reference to FIG. 6, in one embodiment, the interlocking mechanism includes a lug 18 formed on the inside diameter of the adapter sleeve 14, which is shaped to fit into a correspondingly sized slot formed in the outside diameter of the core mandrel 12. Alternatively, the lug 18 may be formed on the outside diameter of the core mandrel 12 with a corresponding slot formed on the inside diameter of the adapter sleeve 14.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] In another arrangement, with reference to FIG. 7, the interlocking mechanism 16 may include a flange 20 formed on one edge of the adapter sleeve 14. The

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flange 20 includes at least one opening 22 therein, wherein a connector 24, such as a pin or bolt, is fit in the opening 22 to secure the flange 20 to an axial face of the core mandrel

12.